

Remarks

Claims 11, 12 and 20-26 are pending in the subject application. By this Amendment, Applicants have canceled claims 12, 21 and 25 and amended claims 11, 20, 23, 24 and 26. Support for the amendments and new claims can be found throughout the subject specification and in the claims as originally filed (see, for example, pages 5-7 and the Examples). Certain of the amendments presented herein are directed to the correction of antecedent basis issues not previously noted in the application and entry and consideration of these amendments also is respectfully requested. Accordingly, claims 11, 20, 22-24 and 26 are currently before the Examiner. Favorable consideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's withdrawal of the objections to the claims and the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

The Examiner has indicated that the title of the invention is not descriptive and that a new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed. Applicants have amended the title of the invention in a fashion that clearly indicates the claims to which the invention is directed. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 20 and 26 are objected to because of informalities. These claims have been amended to insert the required article before "immunoglobulin." Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 11, 12 and 20-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventors, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention and claims 11, 12 and 20-26 are rejected as nonenabled by the subject specification. The Office Action indicates that the specification does not describe the common attributes or characteristics that identify members of the genus. The Office Action acknowledges that the specification is enabled for a method of reducing serum alanine amino transferase (ALT) in a subject with hepatitis comprising the administration of the CCL5/RANTES mutant triple 40's of SEQ ID NO: 1, but is not enabled for a method of treatment of liver fibrotic inflammatory and/or liver autoimmune diseases comprising the administration of an effective amount of any CC-

chemokine mutant having reduced GAG-binding activity wherein the CC-chemokine is CCL5/RANTES. Applicants respectfully assert that there is adequate written description in the subject specification to convey to the ordinarily skilled artisan that they had possession of the claimed invention and that the claims are enabled by the subject specification. However, the claims have been amended in order to advance prosecution in this matter and these issues are now moot. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

It should be understood that the amendments presented herein have been made solely to expedite prosecution of the subject application to completion and should not be construed as an indication of Applicants' agreement with or acquiescence in the Examiner's position. Applicants expressly reserve the right to pursue the invention(s) disclosed in the subject application, including any subject matter canceled or not pursued during prosecution of the subject application, in a related application.

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments to the claims, Applicants believe that the currently pending claims are in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 CFR §§1.16 or 1.17 as required by this paper to Deposit Account No. 19-0065.

Applicants invite the Examiner to call the undersigned if clarification is needed on any of this response, or if the Examiner believes a telephonic interview would expedite the prosecution of the subject application to completion.

Respectfully submitted,



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